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All MSS. and letters relating thereto should be addressed to the Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, *Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1]*

Notes and News.

Women's Suffrage in India.

Absorbed in our recent suffrage victory, and its promise of immediate result, we have perhaps not been so keenly alive as we might have been to the recent activity of Indian suffragists. We would, therefore, call the attention of our leaders to the present rather critical position of the women's suffrage cause in India. A short time ago an "All-Indian Women's Deputation" waited upon Lord Chelmsford and Mr. Montagu, welcoming them to India, and urging upon them the necessity of reforms opening up careers for educated women, and, more important still, putting the possibility of education within the average woman's reach, the present proportion of educated women being one to a hundred. Mr. Montagu asked for some assurance that these reforms are approved by the political organisations of India. The members and supporters of the All-India Women's Deputation have, therefore, applied to the Home Rule League for such assurance, and the Home Rule League has referred the matter to its branches for discussion and report. Women suffragists in India rightly feel the extreme importance of gaining the acknowledged support of a society, whose proposals for political reform are receiving the consideration of the British Government.

Women's Suffrage in Canada.

There is excellent suffrage news this week from Canada. The Woman Suffrage Bill, which gives the Dominion franchise to all women over twenty-one, has passed its third reading in the Senate. Two amendments were brought forward and defeated. The first suggested raising the age limitation from twenty-one to thirty. The other proposed an educational test, and went on logically to suggest the application of a similar test to male voters. This second amendment was defeated on the ground that the new naturalisation law has imposed an educational test which will effectively protect the country from uneducated voters.

The Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

In the House of Lords, on May 7th, during the debate on the second reading of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, the Bishop of London expressed the hope that, "with the pressure of six million women voters behind it, public opinion would shortly insist on the age of consent being raised at least to seventeen." Lord Willoughby de Broke, in turn, announced his opinion that before undertaking legislation of the kind under debate, organised bodies of women should be consulted. Whether Lord Willoughby de Broke's excellent advice is or is not taken it is safe to say that very considerable opposition to this Bill will be forthcoming. Clause 3 is the same as Clause 3 of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill of 1917. It gives power to detain in a home approved by the Secretary of State girls under eighteen convicted of being "common prostitutes" or of loitering, wandering, or importuning for purposes of prostitution. In this Bill, however, a court of summary jurisdiction is given this power, and the accused does not have to be committed for trial before a jury. It is strongly felt by large sections of women that the compulsory detention of girls in a home would not necessarily have a better effect on them than compulsory detention in prison, and that it emphasises the inequality of treatment as between men and women by further penalising the woman without touching the man. Then, again, there is no legal definition of the term "common prostitute," and the temptation to make the existence of venereal disease the test for detention will be great. Clause 5 makes it an offence for any person "suffering from venereal disease in a communicable form" to have sexual intercourse, "or solicit or invite any other person to have sexual intercourse with him or her." The existence of this last phrase in this Clause makes it practically inevitable, in the present unequal administration of the law, that it should be put into force against women and against them only. Strenuous opposition to the inclusion of these words is certain.

The Sexual Offences Bill.

Lord Beauchamp, in moving the second reading of the Sexual Offences Bill, said that the two principles he had in view were, first, to protect young soldiers, and secondly, to deal, as far as possible, with both sexes on an equality. Clause 1 of the Bill, which deals with the communication of venereal disease, has the same objectionable features as Clause 5 of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, and all we have said above with regard to Clause 5 applies with equal force to the Sexual Offences Bill, which will meet with opposition for the same reasons.

Jill-of-all-Trades.

Various scraps of information of the greatest interest to women have been tucked away in odd corners of the Press this week. One tells how the Essex Educational Committee have appointed a woman school dentist, at a good salary, to inspect the teeth of the Essex schoolchildren. Another, how Woolwich asks for an assistant woman medical officer at a salary of £500 per annum. A third, how three women are working as grave-diggers at Peterborough Cemetery. A fourth, that there are women clerks at the Stock Exchange. A fifth, that in Toronto women are employed as drivers and conductors on the street railways. A sixth, that investigation will reveal a woman assistant-stage-manager at the Alhambra.

To Our Subscribers.

This is our first number at the new price of twopence. Those who have already subscribed will not, however, be asked to pay it until their present subscription has lapsed. We regret the necessity of raising our price, but the cost of production has increased so enormously that it is unavoidable. We hope—and some of the letters we are receiving encourage us to believe—that the valuable articles we have been able to print recently will make many of our readers feel that they are getting as good value for twopence as they could get for sixpence spent in any other way.

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Chairman: Mr. D. N. SHAW.

Registered under the War Charities Act
Authorised by the Central Prisoners of War Committee.

The Status of Women after the War. I.

By Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

We must all have a vivid remembrance of the prophecies we made, and the huge blunders we fell into, at the beginning of the war. We cannot read the future, and yet we are perpetually trying to read it. We are constantly endeavouring to "look into the seeds of time, and say which grain will grow and which will not." We continually prophesy wrong, but we go on prophesying quite undismayed and quite undeterred by our former errors.

When the war came upon us like a thunder-clap, everyone thought there was going to be an immense amount of industrial distress, and a large dislocation of labour. Heart-breaking pictures were drawn of closed factories, the gates surrounded by piteous groups of starving women and children. The Prince of Wales's Fund was started with the object of dealing with these expected difficulties. It was officially declared to be *for the prevention and relief of distress caused by the war.* It quickly rose to a sum of between five and six millions; but, except that a considerable slice of it was used, improperly as I think, to supply the allowances to the wives and families of soldiers forming the new armies—a charge which ought to have been met by the Government out of the Revenue—only a comparatively insignificant part of it has been used at all.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb during those first few weeks of the war advised the avoidance of all action that would curtail the volume of employment, and suggested that, on the contrary, the general public would do well to create, if possible, new demands for labour, and therefore to buy as usual; they advised purchases even of useless things, such as jewelry, so as to keep money in circulation and wage-earners employed.

We of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies accepted this advice (not about the jewelry), but that we should extend, as far as possible, and certainly not curtail, the volume of employment. We therefore kept on all our permanent staff; we opened forty workshops in various parts of the country, and gave employment in them to about 2,000 women. Other people, no doubt, did the same sort of thing. And, of course, there *was* a temporary necessity for it, for a very large number of women, especially in the luxury trades, were thrown out of employment.

But the crisis was neither so severe nor so prolonged as we had all expected. Workers generally, including women workers, showed an amazing degree of adaptability in turning their hands to new jobs. Black Country workers transferred themselves to the leather trade; dressmakers and tailoresses made knapsacks and other accoutrements for soldiers; cigar-makers turned their attention to electric lamps; fish-hook makers to hosiery needles; and so on, to an almost endless list. Then quicker than anybody had foreseen the demand of our own Government for work to supply the needs of the new Armies grew to enormous proportions, and was supplemented by similar demands from our Allies: this demand for cloth, blankets, boots, hosiery, saddlery, and every kind of equipment, besides the enormous need for munitions, quickly absorbed practically all the labour in the country, and classes of people became producers who had never worked in that way before. This situation has intensified as the months and years have passed, and it very quickly became true that there was no unemployment, but, on the contrary, every man and woman in all classes was urged to take work: the demand for labour was never so great and wages were never so high in £ s. d., though the cost of living has risen in proportion, and perhaps more than in proportion. When the war had lasted about eighteen months the country was told by the then President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Runciman) that there had never been greater activity in the larger industries, that wages were higher than ever before, and that the percentage of unemployment was the lowest on record. About five and a half million people, it was said, were receiving higher wages, the total increase being then, roughly, £1,000,000 a week, making £52,000,000 a year. Exceptional men in the engineering trade were earning from £5 to £10 a week: one tool-maker in Coventry had by great efforts made more than £16 in the week. The women, it was added, were doing "*amazingly* good work," and the President recited the numbers, amounting then only to about 365,000, but now, of course, considerably over 1,000,000, in which women had been put in to do the work formerly done by men. He said: "In one firm they are making electric motors; in another they are doing all the work in manufacturing two-inch howitzer bombs, including testing. And they are doing

many other kinds of work requiring the employment of machinery and CALLING FOR GREAT SKILL."

Women were called upon to do all kinds of work which they had never done before: and they did them well. The elasticity and resourcefulness that the war has developed will not be lost or destroyed by the coming of peace. Nearly all the masters of industry are loud in their praise of women's work. One has said that he sees no reason why in the near future a battleship should not be built entirely by women's labour. We seem to have travelled a very long way from Milton's Eve, "herself though fairest, unsupported flower," or from Keats's "milk white lamb bleating for man's protection." But the extraordinary development in the industrial and professional status of women was very far indeed from being foreseen by any of us at the beginning of the war. I thought the effect of the war would be simply disastrous to the women's movement. It was a cause to which I had devoted my life, and I believed that this, my dearest object, was indefinitely set back and postponed. I thought I had good grounds for this opinion. I knew that war had almost always held back or postponed other movements for social betterment and political freedom.

I knew that Pitt was ready for Parliamentary Reform, Free Trade, and the Abolition of the Slave Trade at the time of the outbreak of the Napoleonic Wars at the end of the eighteenth century, and that all these good things were postponed twenty, thirty, or even fifty years. But, thank Heaven, history does not always repeat itself. And it is obvious now to everyone that the progress of the women's movement has been much more rapid since the war broke out than during any similar period of its previous history. Taking actually accomplished political facts. Besides comparatively small gains, there have been very notable suffrage victories in the United States. The State of New York was carried for suffrage last November by a majority of over 100,000 votes; the chances of a Federal amendment were never so good; and there is our own great victory, whereby 6,000,000 women have been enfranchised and the stigma of perpetual disability removed from an entire sex. A similar sweeping victory for Woman Suffrage has taken place in Canada. First for the Provinces and then for the Dominion as a whole. We ask ourselves what has been the cause of this immense change in public sentiment, and, also, what has been the cause of the extraordinary industrial and economic stability which this country has shown during the nearly four years of war. If anyone had been asked before the war began what would have been the economic effect of withdrawing five million of the flower of the industrial manhood of the country into the Army and of diverting other millions from productive industry to the making of munitions and other warlike equipment, the answer would have been that the effect would be disastrous; misery and destitution would rage among the masses of the people; poverty and privation would be found everywhere. But, instead of all these dire happenings, we have an Army larger, far larger than ever before; well fed and clothed as never before: there has been no financial panic; foreign exchanges have been adjusted in a way that could not have been foreseen; the main reason being that the volume of our export trade was in the first years of the war so marvellously kept up. A higher level of comfort has prevailed among the masses of the population; children attending the elementary schools come there better fed, better clothed, better cared for all round, and consequently in better health. The year 1916 showed the lowest infantile death-rate on record. For England it was only ninety-one per thousand births. The health of the nation, as shown by the vital statistics, has not only not been impaired, it has actually improved. Sir Bernard Mallet, in his presidential address delivered to the Royal Statistical Society in December, 1917, was able to show that the population of this country was actually larger after three and a quarter years of war than it was in July, 1914. We ask ourselves: How has it been done? How has it been possible? Why have we not suffered more? With millions of men withdrawn from industry and devoting their whole strength to destruction instead of construction, why has the nation won through so far and achieved an actual improvement in many of the most important indications of national prosperity? This is a question which cannot be answered by any single word or sentence. Perhaps no one, however well-informed, can give a complete answer. But we may grope our way towards an answer. The causes are manifold. In the first place wasteful and luxurious expenditure has been severely curtailed in all classes. The millionaire with half-a-dozen or more enormous establishments—a palace in London, several palaces in different parts of the country, a grouse moor in Yorkshire, a salmon river in Scotland, a hunting lodge in Leicestershire—has shut up his palaces or lent them to the Red Cross: his gillies and game keepers are in the Army, the packs of hounds are dispersed, herds of deer have been killed and the venison distributed, his dozen of motor-cars are given up, he is put on a severe ration for petrol, and, to do him justice, he is not thinking of how he can enjoy himself, but how he can serve. He and his sons and daughters are serving in every way they can. It is the same with other and less wealthy classes; strict economy in household and personal expenses has been recognised as an absolute necessity: and everyone who can work has worked. The industrial classes have worked splendidly. Again and again they have given up their holidays so as not to leave our splendid lads at the Front in the lurch. The consumption of alcohol in all classes has been severely controlled, and efficiency thereby promoted. The high prices of almost every article of domestic or manufacturing use have stimulated economy. There has also been more attention given to improving our own natural resources. The extension of the allotment system and the enormous production of potatoes of the last year has greatly eased the whole situation as regards food. But I now come to what I consider the most important cause of all, the discovery and the setting free of the industrial capacities of women.

It is true that in some employments, especially in the textile industry, the industrial capacities of women were no new discovery, but this well-known fact only emphasises the outrageous waste of shutting women out from other skilled trades. Let us take, for example, engineering. The labour of women has, since the war, replaced the labour of men to a very striking degree. And a remarkable thing has happened. The output of women has in many cases enormously exceeded the output of men. This is not to be attributed in all cases, at any rate, to improved machinery, but to the fact that women coming fresh into the industry and being stimulated by patriotic enthusiasm, and not haunted by the dread of the cutting of piece-rates, have been free from the intentional limitation of output which men have often imposed on themselves, so that the women's output has at once compared most favourably with that of the men they have replaced. In a book, *Industry and Finance*, edited by Professor Kirkaldy of Birmingham University, and published by the authority of the British Association, 1917, some examples are given which I will quote. The first instance is the record of an investigation in an engineering shop in Glasgow. "The operation was copper-band cutting. A skilled man was formerly on the job. He cut, on an average, seventy-five bands a day. Under the dilution scheme, his daughter was taken on and put in his place, receiving such training as was necessary from her father. It was not long before she was cutting one hundred and thirty-seven bands a day. And it is generally known that on shell work, with the incentive of straight piece rates, the output of women operators within the past twelve months has been unparalleled. . . It has been officially declared that a year's output at the rate attained in 1914-1915 is now attained in thirteen days, seven days, five days, and, *in the case of shells for heavy guns, in less than one day*.

I might give many more instances of the high productivity of women's work, but I will confine myself to one or two more only. Sir William Beardmore, when President of the Iron and Steel Institute, described the work of girls who had been substituted for men in his own works; he said:—"Early in the war it was found at Parkhead Forge that the output from the respective machines was not so great as what the machines were designed for, and one of the workers was induced to do his best to obtain the most out of a machine; he very greatly increased his output, notwithstanding his predilection for Trade Union restrictions. When it was found that the demands of the Government for a greatly accelerated production of shells required the employment of girls in the projectile factory, owing to the scarcity of skilled workers, these girls in all cases *produced more than double that produced by thoroughly trained mechanics* — members of Trade Unions — working the same machines under the same conditions. In the turning of the shell body, the actual output by girls with the same machines, and working under exactly the same conditions and for an equal number of hours, was quite double that by trained mechanics. In the boring of shells, the output was also quite double; in the curving, waving, and finishing of shell cases quite 120 per cent. more than that of experienced mechanics." (See p. 126 of *After War Problems*.) The Press began to describe with enthusiasm the great productivity and the great skill which in many instances characterised the work of women. A visit to a munitions factory was described, in February, 1916, in which the employment of women, and the absence of any attempt to use the

women to under-cut the men, had resulted in quintupling the output. We had the story of a former charwoman doing gun breech work, boring a hole, one-eighth inch in diameter, dead through nearly twelve inches of steel. The test of success was the tally of broken tools and "this woman has, as yet, a clean sheet."

My other illustration dates from a time long before the war. I take it from Mr. Drake's book, *Women in the Engineering Trades*. A chainmaker in 1884 complained in the local Press how the women of the Black Country were unsexed to *such a degree that when he himself was thoroughly exhausted his daughter could still go on.*" The nailmakers implored Parliament to restrict the women to "their own size of nail," although the size at which nailmaking becomes "womanly" remains undetermined owing to variations in local practice.

Mr. Asquith in his Preface to Mrs. Frances MacLaren's little book, *Women and the War*, says in reference to the high productivity of women's labour: "Nor can it be doubted that these experiences and achievements will, when the war is over, have a permanent effect upon both the statesman's and the economist's conception of the power and function of women in the reconstructed world."

[This article is the first of three which will be published in THE COMMON CAUSE, *founded on an address delivered at one of a series of conferences organised by the Huddersfield Liberal Association.]*

Women on Government Committees.

Within the last fortnight the proposed Luxury Tax has been naturally enough arousing considerable interest, and, consequently, so has the Select Committee, in whose hands lies the fixing of the tax. To determine what is and what is not a luxury is at the best of times a delicate task, and when it is common property that the verdict must be the death-knell of a large number of those luxuries it becomes superhuman.

It was felt from the first that, among the Immortals chosen to decide this vexed question, there should rightly be representatives of the marketing section of Olympus—in other words, that there should be women on the Committee. It was not an easy point to press for. The Select Committee on the Luxury Tax was a sub-Committee of the House of Commons, and consequently consisted only of Members of Parliament, without power of co-option either of men or of women.

However, the need for outside experience in determining the details of the Tax became more and more evident, and finally the Select Committee itself set up four sub-Committees to prepare lists of different types of articles to be treated as luxuries. These Committees have power of co-option, and, as one of them will deal with "drapery and ladies' apparel," and the other with "household furniture and jewelry," we are glad to see that there will be three women upon the first, and two upon the second. And we are even more glad to deduce—since the membership of the Select Committee as given in the Press was twelve; since there are four sub-Committees; since four into twelve is three—that the co-opted women will probably not be in a hopeless minority. A red letter day in the life of a woman committee-member!

It is not the first time that THE COMMON CAUSE has "been glad to see" or "regretted to observe" that a woman was or was not on a Government Committee, for the occurrence is still rare enough to be an event. The general reluctance to put women on important committees, or the tendency—where they are appointed—to put them on in such a hopeless minority that their opinion must necessarily be overborne, is a very real and very keenly felt grievance among educated women.

The Billeting of Civilians Central Board consists of sixteen members. Of these three are women. Yet one would have thought that more than three-sixteenths of billeting arrangements were women's concerns. The Clerical Occupations' Committee has eleven members; two are women. Have we dreamed all that we have heard of the importance of women clerks and the quantity of work that they are doing? And are the accounts of women's munition work also a myth, or why on the Government Central Munitions Labour Supply Committee is there but one woman among twelve members, and on the Hours of Labour Committee two among eleven? And it is the same tale when we turn to Elementary Education Committees, and the same even on the Women's Wages Tribunal.

There is a further point, one, too, which is raised by the present position of the Luxury-Tax Sub-Committees. They are apparently finding some difficulty in deciding what women to co-opt. This is mysterious to a degree. Why this hesitation? What is the hidden stumbling block? Selection is so easy! Run through the list of women already on Government Committees, put the names in a hat—quite a small, non-luxurious hat will do—and draw out five. They will be women of wide experience of Committees.

For the thing would really be a joke were it not so serious. Miss X figures on one Committee—she will figure on a dozen. She has struggled her way into some leading administrative post—her footing within the sacred pale is viewed with ministerial misgiving—one would almost swear the woman administrator was unpopular. Then comes a clamour for the appointment of women to Committees, and immediately she is surrounded by devotion. She is a veritable God-send. At once, with enthusiasm, she is appointed to a Committee, and to another, and another, and another. . . The clamour is hushed. Woman's opinion is being represented. And incidentally the danger is over, no other feminine foot has crossed the threshold.

There is a Government reply to this and every other criticism of the representation of women on Committees. "It is impossible to find experienced women for Committees. There are so few holding advanced administrative posts." Yes, it is apt to be lonely on a lawn if you have surrounded it with "Keep off the Grass" notices. Women are knocking at the door of the administrative posts, and if the door is shut, it is hardly they who should be blamed for waiting outside.

Children and Food.

Late in the history of civilisation the discovery was made that if a nation wanted healthy children it must begin with the mothers. But the mothers themselves have begun as girl-children, hence arose the fashion of providing gymnasia and outdoor games for girls, and for special protection for young feminine workers. People looked ahead and saw in the girl-child the mother of sons to be.

But war is a great foreshortener of vision; it brings men's minds back with a jerk to the more immediate need, which, we can only suppose, is the explanation of the extraordinary provision by which girls between the ages of thirteen and eighteen are to receive five ounces less bacon per week than boys.

Now the fact has to be faced that, while the present rations have proved in the main sufficient for adults who lead a normal life, that, indeed, many such adults are in better health than they were when able to indulge more freely in the pleasures of the table, and that it was the habit of most of us to feed not wisely but too well, yet the present allowance, especially of proteids and fats, is not sufficient for growing children of either sex.

According to the estimate of De Chaumont a child of about fifteen years needs daily three ounces of nitrogenous food, two and a half ounces of fat, and twelve ounces of starch and sugar, besides mineral salts. It is clear, therefore, that the present allowance of only four ounces of butter or margarine a week, together with the reduction of the meat allowance, involves a heavy deficit of fats in the dietary for growing boys and girls at the present time. Whether the present concession in the matter of supplies of ham and bacon for all will prove more than temporary remains to be seen, but the short-sighted action of giving to boys a larger allowance of nitrogenous and fat foods than to girls is a principle wholly against the best interests of the nation, quite apart from its manifest injustice.

The period of most rapid growth (after the first year) is in the thirteenth and three or four successive years of life, and it is an ironic fact in view of the proposal to make girls of thirteen suffer more seriously from food shortage than boys of the same age, that girls from about twelve and a half to the beginning of their fifteenth year grow faster than boys, and their average height is then one inch taller than boys, who, however, catch them up later. Moreover, "the period of puberty involves greater and more rapid changes in girls than in boys" (A. Newsholme, M.D.), and greater strain is put upon the nervous system, "new emotions and new phases of mental activity being developed." In addition to all this, the girl usually has less recreation and fresh air than her brother, as she is expected to occupy herself indoors when not at work or school, with sewing and domestic duties from which boys are almost entirely free.

But apart from, or, perhaps, partly as a result of the greater physiological changes and swifter growth of girls in their early teens, they are subject to two conditions which are rarely found to affect boys, anæmia and spinal curvature. Anæmia is especially common in growing girls, and is the parent of many ills, such as nervous dis-

turbances, heart trouble, and rheumatism; and the lowered vitality and functional disorders induced by the condition frequently become the prelude to gastric ulcer, consumption, and other serious diseases. Now anæmia is aided and abetted and often actually caused by lack of fresh air and exercise, overwork, and under-feeding. *It is a result of under-feeding, and is almost peculiar to girls*; so that the logic which decides to give any extra nourishment that may be available to *boys*, is comparable to the logic which, in the early days of the maternity insurance benefit, decreed that when a woman had a baby a man should receive thirty shillings.

And the next generation of English citizens, male as well as female, will have to pay the price for this short-sightedness, for not even a Government Department can produce fine, healthy, vigorous mothers from stinted and starved girls. And strong mothers are even more important for the race than robust fathers, because, while the child inherits equally from each, it is from the mother that he draws his nourishment for the first, all-important months of his life. No one grudges growing boys their extra ration, but apart from the common justice of it common sense demands that they should share it equally with their sisters, whose need is physiologically greater than theirs.

The regulation is an instance of piece-meal legislation, short-sighted, and bound to defeat its own ends, which is presumably to guard the future men of the country from physical weakness and a lower standard of development. Further, it exaggerates a false principle, the principle of sex-differentiation, which is so far-reaching in its evil effects on men and women alike. We profoundly regret that our children must suffer from a deficiency of nourishing food, as a result of the war; but, in so far as we are able, let us at least protect from the ill effects of the general shortage our future mothers equally with our future fathers.

C. R.

Women Patrols.

Extraordinary and wonderful success has attended the work of the Women Patrols. The developments have all made for efficiency; the direct outcome of the quiet, patient, and yet effective work of the voluntary Women Patrols has been the official appointment of Special Patrols.

From the very beginning of the movement it has had official recognition from the Home Office, the Commissioner of Police, the Admiralty, and the War Office. In July, 1916, the Commissioner of Police, recognising that the voluntary Patrols were working with great success on constitutional lines, determined, as an experiment, to employ them as auxiliaries to the police; this proved a decidedly valuable development, and as a result he is now employing a sanctioned strength of forty-five Special Women Patrols on continuous whole-time duty with the Metropolitan Police Force. These Patrols work seven hours a day, six days a week, and are attached to twelve Police-stations, to arsenals and dockyards, policed by the Metropolitan Police Force. In addition to these there are thirty-nine paid Patrols, who act some as "Reliefs" to the regular workers on their off duty days, and some of whom are employed with the police on part-time duty in the suburbs. Sanction has been given for whole-time Patrols to be posted to a new aeroplane factory when opened in one of these suburbs. Besides these women employed by the Commissioner of Police, and paid out of the Police fund, there are also fourteen Women Patrols whole-time paid workers working under (a) H.M. Office of Works, as park keepers in Kensington Gardens, (b) the Ministry of Munitions in Hostels, (c) the Conservators of Wimbledon Common, (d) the L.C.C., (e) in a Government Department for the duration of the war on special service.

An interesting and very human development is that of the appointment of a specially qualified Woman Patrol to deal with the large number of girls brought in from the various districts by the Women Patrols (girls who would inevitably have become police-court cases). This Patrol is one of those sanctioned by the Commissioner of Police. She has a marvellous gift of winning the confidence of the girls, and an almost uncanny intuition of their troubles. She tells pathetic stories of wasted girl life, but always accompanied by optimistic prophesies of restoration to self-respect, and a purer life. A typical one is this: This Patrol had procured remunerative work for a girl who had followed her "boy" from Canada in the early days of the war. "And now," said the girl, "he's killed, and I didn't care what became of me, or what I did. A woman told me I could get my living that way." "But you *want* to give up the life?" queried the worker. "Oh, I do; I do! When the Patrols found me I was down there"—putting her hand about a foot from the ground—"and now I'm going up, up"—gradually raising her hand—"and *going* up"—then, dropping her somewhat excited, agitated tone, she said, sweetly and solemnly, "don't you ladies make any mistake, I am going to be on the square, that I am. I've got a chanst now—I'm going to have thirty shillings a week a' Monday. I'm going to live clean and straight, you bet." And she meant it.

May many more girls be helped from down, down, to up, up, up——. Yet, were she the only one, Patrol work is justified of its being. In about a month fifty-three girls passed through the Patrol's hands. Some were sent to their own homes in the the country, some placed in work or in Homes, some in hospital. *All* were helped, advised, comforted, and encouraged to start afresh a better life.

It is impossible to speak of the Patrol scheme without alluding to the Clubs, organised under the auspices of the Women Patrols' Committees, both those for girls alone, and those where both men and girls are eligible for membership. It was an entirely tentative and pioneer movement, and received the most severe criticism from well-known societies and social workers. One of the best known of the latter, working for the welfare of soldiers, refused emphatically to co-operate with the Women Patrols' Committees in this direction, on account of "the great dangers" this new kind of club would create. It is, itself, now promoting them in many districts. In the various "Comrades' Clubs" started by the Women Patrols there has never been any serious trouble, and they have been of untold value to both men and girls, affording as they do homelike places where they can meet for pleasant converse and intercourse. Any adequate account of these clubs would require more space than I have at my command. The valuable and valued developments all spring from the useful work of quiet, sensible women, who nobly came forward when the crying need of this work was made known, and found in patrolling the opportunity to serve their King and Country by "doing what they could"; and those who best know their work and its results say "God bless the voluntary Women Patrols." The need still exists, and will be even greater when this ghastly war is over. More workers are sadly needed, and will be warmly welcomed both in London and the Provinces. This is an opportunity rarely occurring for middle-aged women to take up work of great value and of national importance.

M. G. Carden, Hon. Secretary,
Women Patrols' Committee.

Reviews.

AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF RECONSTRUCTION.

Past and Future. By Jason. (Chatto & Windus. 3s. 6d.)

"To men who ask us to think first of industrial power, or military power, or political power, we reply that it is the first duty of a civilised State to see that no man's life is wasted."

These words, which conclude the first chapter of *Past and Future*, may be said to be the keynote of this book, which is one of the most important contributions yet made to the study of reconstruction. It is possible to think of the present time of anguish as a time of destruction only, or as a great opportunity for the birth of a new civilisation. It is from the latter standpoint that Jason looks at it. He believes that the old civilisation, which is being swept into ruins, was false, because it did not take any true account of human values. It was the offspring of the Napoleonic wars, and it has ended, not unnaturally, in the German wars. Its industrialism had this in common with militarism, that both of them regarded human beings as simply instruments of power and not as ends in themselves. If the first great question before us now is how to resist all-devouring militarism, the second is, in what spirit are we going to rebuild the world.

In the second chapter, "The Industrial Revolution," Jason traces the growth of commercialism; in the third, he shows how the present war has shaken it to its foundations.

"In any great struggle of this kind there is a certain conflict of ideas which affects the imagination of the combatants. Thus in our long war with Revolutionary France our ruling class became more and more reactionary, because they came to associate all ideas of liberty and reform with France, with the atrocities of the Terror and her disturbing

The New England

A WRITER has suggested that the finest memorial of the Great War would be a New England—an England purified of its slums and its grime, a fit habitation for brave men.

The New England must be a cleaner, healthier land: the mean streets, the foul houses must go, and with them the soot and smoke that stunt vegetation and veil from town-dwellers the face of the strength-giving sun.

The Board of Fuel Research is considering this latter point—for smoke means waste of coal as well as injury to life, and continued waste of coal will bring financial disaster upon us in the future. Only a vast expansion of our industries can pay for the War, and if our industries are to flourish cheap and plentiful coal is essential.

Coal is also our most valuable export. Yet we drain our stocks at a reckless rate quite disproportionate to that of rivals who possess infinitely greater reserves.

This must not continue—every year's waste counts on the wrong side of the National Balance Sheet. And it need not continue. The scientific practice of the gasworks can extract the full heating value from our coal in the form of gas—which compared with crude coal is for industrial and domestic use alike a fuel far more efficient and far more economical—and at the same time recover all its other valuable constituents, so that nothing is lost.

To use gas instead of coal is to help build up the future stability of the nation. Write to us for the special numbers of 'A Thousand and One Uses for Gas' and for our other publications which explain this most urgent matter.

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energy in Europe. The fear of what Pitt called, in a brilliant phrase, 'the liquid fire of Jacobinism,' overshadowed the fear of French power which had dominated British politics before the Revolution. Similarly in this war we are fighting not merely against a formidable enemy, but against a theory of life as well, and just as our conflict with revolutionary France encouraged the love of inequality, so our conflict with absolutist Germany inspires a warmer sense for humane ideals."

* * * * *

We are sparing no effort to save Europe from the creed that says that no human rights count against military power, and are beginning to attach a new value to those rights which we have been ready to surrender to industrial power."

Jason goes on to point out that this impulse is immensely strengthened and animated by the experience of the soldiers.

"Now, though it is a just commonplace about war, that war makes the life of man cheap, it does not make man's life cheap in his own eyes. The more ready he is to risk it, the higher the value he puts on it. He offers it to his country as the greatest sacrifice he can make, but the very fact that his life is trembling in the balance gives it a new significance and a new value. For this reason the man who endures all the discomforts and the hardships and the dangers of war will not put up with the standards that seemed tolerable before the war. No man, whatever his power or his riches, can give more to his country than Private Smith, standing in the cold trench at early dawn, with bayonet fixed, waiting for the attack—Private Smith who, a year ago occupied as insignificant a place as you can find in the economy of industry. War, in this sense, is an equalizing revolution in social life, destroying the arrogance of rank or intellect, for a common heroism puts rich and poor, plain man and intellectual, on one level of science. And men who accepted the general atmosphere of a society which treated them rather as instruments than as citizens, will certainly revolt against the tradition, for the life which they did not grudge to their country has a higher value from the moment it was offered: a value outside and apart from the economy of industry. Those who have seen much of the Army know that the soldiers count it not the least of their sacrifice that they became the instruments of a military system in a great crisis, and they are determined to be something more than instruments when the crisis is past."

In the following chapters on "The Waste of Youth," "The Choice for our Children," "The Causes and Meaning of Industrial Discontent," "The Problem of Industrial Power," "The New Claim of the Trade Union," and the Whitley Councils, Jason examines in a more detailed way the faults and dangers of our present system, and the proposals that have been made to change it. In Chapter X. he describes great experiments in State control, made by the Government in regard to the woollen industries. The next two chapters deal with the future organisation of industry, and the last returns to the subject of youth and what we may call "the child in the street."

This book is not only interesting and stimulating, it looks straight at fundamental problems, and from the standpoint of one whose love for his country is informed both by scholarship and experience; we heartily recommend it to all who are interested in reconstruction.

MONOGAMY: A Series of Dramatic Lyrics. By Gerald Gould. (George Allen & Unwin, 1s. 6d. net.)

In the dedication (which is also an introduction) to these poems, Mr. Gould warns us that they are "not propaganda," and that their meaning will be wholly misunderstood if they are taken as didactic. No one who has read them with the attention they deserve and command will deny the justice of this claim, nor rashly guess what is the author's opinion about marriage. Nevertheless, it would be an error to suppose that they are not a serious contribution to the discussion of this most serious subject. No question that concerns human life can be properly discussed till the imagination has been awakened about it, and in each generation the imagination needs to be re-awakened and to some extent re-focussed. Browning, Meredith, Tolstoi, Hardy, awakened our fathers and mothers, and their appeal is one that does not die, but unless the poets of our own generation also pour their light on our experience we shall get small good from sociological handbooks, and shall be less fitted than we ought to be to understand the lessons of our own and our neighbours' lives. That is one reason why we are grateful to Mr. Gould for these seven poems, none of them very long, but so full of passionate thought and living imagination that one is led to read them over and over again.

They are dramatic lyrics. In each of them a husband speaks about his marriage, and in each of them the marriage is an unhappy one. But after reading the introduction one is not the least inclined to infer that the writer disapproves of marriage. Nor does the terrible description of the children in the third poem make one think that he discounts the joys of parenthood. Still less, we think, will the woman reader echo the complaint of the friend, quoted in the introduction, who said that he "would like the woman's point of view to have a show." The woman's point of view is implicit in every poem. (We think that even a reader who did not know Mr. Gould's other writings, and who had not read the introduction,

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might infer that he was a feminist. But as one cannot make this inference about the husbands who speak, and as the poems are dramatically convincing, it is rather difficult to know how we arrive at this belief.) Each poem gives us a strange concentrated picture of the lives of a husband and a wife. They are too concentrated, too whole, to be quoted from with any ease, though there are lovely lines which dwell in one's mind, such as :—

"And always through the sunshine, like a tune
Played softly from a green and golden bower . . ."

But they should be read in their entirety, and read several times. The third is, we think, the most poignant, but that may be an individual point of view. They are all full of human interest, and none of them quite easy or quite impossible to understand.

I. B. O'M.

The Englishwoman. 1s.

We have got so used to the beautiful and distinguished appearance which *The Englishwoman* has worn during its nine years of life that it is rather a shock to see it in the new type, forced on it by war conditions. But as we realise that the change is only temporary, and that it has made it possible to keep the substance of what we have always enjoyed intact, the effects of the shock melt away. When we have once begun to read the very interesting contributions, of which this May number is made up, we forget all about the type. "Voluntary Conscription," seems, if we may say so without offence, to be rather an Irish title for the first article. The subject is not quite what we should call conscription, but rather the proper use of woman-power—a matter of vital interest to us all at this moment. Miss Susan Mitchell's brilliant article on Ireland (in the April number of this magazine) is followed by an equally brilliant one by Miss E. Œ. Somerville. Both writers know their Ireland, though they look at her from different angles. There is an interesting article on American Women War Workers, by F. A. Degen, and an attractive one on "Thackeray in France," by Rowland Grey. K. F. Purden writes readably of the Garden in May, and K. F. Doughty of Fish-ponds. There is a story of the Celtic fairy tale type by Jim Barlow, and there are poems by Dolf Wyllarde and A. A. W. Ramsay; and there is some effective literary and dramatic criticism. It will be seen that the new type has made the necessary economy in paper compatible with plenty of excellent reading. The price of *The Englishwoman* remains the same.

A BOARDING SCHOOL FOR WORKING MEN'S CHILDREN.*

The Caldecott Community publishes its annual report for 1916-1917 under remarkably interesting circumstances. As a nursery day school in South St. Pancras it has lived through the first tentative and precarious period of its existence; and now at last, with a strong backing of interest in the educational world, with the records of five years or so of experiment and observation, and with a nucleus of the children who have grown up with it, it has transplanted itself to the Kentish hills, where it is installed as a boarding school in a venerable Jacobean mansion. The current report gives us the first glimpses of its new life. It is, without exaggeration, an enthrallingly interesting document, and in the course of its twenty-four pages we are given a vivid picture of Caldecott Community life from *réveillé* to last post. It describes the methods of teaching, and those who have been acquainted with the school in its South St. Pancras days will know that the keynote of this method is free initiative as opposed to the uniformity of class organisation. It describes also the intermixture of household duties, which serves, physically, to solve the domestic staff problem, and spiritually, to make the school a community in very truth. And, in addition, it contains a declaration of faith on the part of the directors of the school, set forth under such headings as "The Business of the Teacher," "The Need for Personal Care," "The Future of the Children."

But perhaps it may be said that the real interest of the report is social rather than educational. The school was started frankly as an educational experiment—an experiment in non-class teaching at a time when the inspiration of Madame Montessori was beginning to filter through to us from the Eternal City. To-day, however, the school is something more: it is a social experiment—an attempt to meet the needs of the urban artisan for something which the rich man regards as a necessity; an attempt, in the words of the report, to reconstitute the Caldecott Community as a boarding school for working men's children. Does the working man really want boarding schools? To what extent is he willing to pay for them? How far can they be made self-supporting? What part should they play in a reconstructed scheme of national education?

It is to future reports that we must look for an answer to these questions, and to the N.U.W.S.S. such problems, with their close bearing on the position of women in industry and in the home, are of vital interest. If not as educationalists, at least as feminists we must keep an eye upon the doings of the Caldecott Community.

* "The Caldecott Community." Sixth Annual Report, 1916-1917.

EDIE PARKER.

Where Edie Parker comes from
No flowers grow,
The houses touch their neighbours,
Row on row.

The streets are grey and dirty;
Cabbage stalks
And fish-bones deck the pavements
Where Edie walks.

Hopscotch is interrupted
By carts and drays.
There are no lawns to roll on
Where Edie plays.

One steaming August Edie
Came to Dunch.
Her teacher gave her biscuits,
And plums for lunch.

Before the train had started
Only crumbs
Were left in Edie's pocket,
And no plums.

Edie must have been hungry
Before tea-time.
She said "I don't want nothing
All the sime."

She said, "I wish I 'adn't
Come down 'ere."
I said, "You'll love it, Edie."
She said, "No fear."

She wouldn't smell the flowers,
Or stroke the calf.
I said, "You're home-sick, Edie?"
She said, "Not 'alf."

"I'm thinking of my 'Erbert,"
Edie said.
"My 'Erbert won't 'alf miss me,
When 'e's in bed."

I said, "He has his Mother."
She said, "'E ain't."
She said, "I keeps my 'Erbert
As fresh as paint.

"Mother she don't care nothing
'Ow 'Erb's kept
She'll stay out till hours."
And Edie wept.

"I'm going to start out walking
Back home again.
I'm not agoing to wait 'ere,
Not for no train."

She cried till close on midnight
Uncomforted.
Her thin young arms were restless
In the empty bed.

Next day she left for Hoxton
Beaming with joy.
"'Erb won't half crow to see me,
Saucy old boy."

Susan Miles.

GARROULD'S

TO H.M. WAR OFFICE, H.M. COLONIAL OFFICE, INDIA OFFICE, LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL, THE MINISTRY OF MUNITIONS, EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, THE PRINCIPAL HOSPITALS, ETC.

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Correspondence.

[We regret that, owing to paper restrictions, our space for Correspondence is very limited; correspondents are, therefore, urged to write briefly. Letters must reach us by first post on Monday, and must be written on one side of the paper only. If these conditions are complied with, we will do our best to print the most important letters.]

THE ETHICS OF PROPHYLACTICS.

MADAM,—Heartily as I welcome the admission of varied views to a hearing in THE COMMON CAUSE, I am sure that a large number of its readers will share my profound dismay and disappointment in reading Dr. Saleeby's advocacy of the distribution of "protective" prophylactics to our soldiers. I consider the word "advocacy" justified, in spite of the writer's judicial summing-up of the pro and con arguments, for one cannot doubt the effect of this paper on the fluid opinion not already committed to any particular line of thought on this thorny question.

It is difficult to add any word of value to Dr. Ethel Williams's reply to Dr. Saleeby in your last issue; one can only reinforce all she says, and especially the words: "Man is a moral animal and therefore you cannot in the nature of things deal with a physical question which is bound up with a moral one without affecting his moral attitude."

These words mark the divergence of our standpoint from that of Dr. Saleeby, who pins his hope for the world's salvation on the elimination of "racial poisons"—in other words, on physical hygiene. For some of us can conceive a world of hygienically perfect but soulless beings, to which our race, even as it now exists, might be preferable.

Dr. Saleeby himself professes contempt for those "who frankly regard promiscuous sexual indulgence as necessary and healthy for men." But such official acts as the *provision for safeguarded vice* speak with far more convincing emphasis to impressionable youth than any accompanying precepts of wisdom, from Lord Kitchener or even higher authority. The combination is too reminiscent of the prayer of a very youthful sceptic (who had anticipated Mr. Wells's conception of a finite God)—"Please, God, make Sissie a good girl; but if you can't, you must leave her."

A valiant antagonist of *Maisons tolérées* is reported to have received a letter of remonstrance from a military personage to this effect: "We are out to maintain an efficient army. If to do this entails the sacrifice of 1,000 or 2,000 girls, it is comparatively of no importance."

There we have the view of the Military Specialist: in Dr. Saleeby's paper we have that of the physical health specialist. The Specialist in Humanity opposes to them the plea: "It is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

Dr. Saleeby assumes and rests his argument on the existence of a general knowledge of and demand for these prophylactics, a questionable assumption! While writing these lines, I have heard of a doctor, with a large general practice, who wrote for information on the subject to a colleague in the R.A.M.C., and received the reply that neither he nor his fellow-workers knew anything about them.

To be consistent, advocates of the distribution of "prophylactic packets" must include among the recipients, not only professional prostitutes, but also the immense number of uncontrolled and irresponsible young girls who are now declared to constitute an even more active danger to the soldiers and themselves. Is public opinion prepared to sanction the free supply of this "medical outfit" to these girls, with accompanying instructions, and the explanation that "if it did not prevent to-day, certainly it would next month or next year"? (*vide* Dr. Saleeby).

I have no doubt whatever that the public answer to this question, if honestly faced, would be "in the negative"; and that if any evasion of the right conclusion is permitted, it will be a victory of panic over principle.

From Dr. Saleeby himself, to whom we women owe much and hope to owe more in many directions, we gratefully quote the inspiring words, "The wisdom of women is the race's last reserve in this need."

CATHERINE C. OSLER.

MADAM,—I think I am not far from your agreement with Dr. Ethel Williams. She says, however, that I miss the point of the objectors to "prophylaxis," who contend that "man is a moral animal," etc. I knew that I could not have missed so evident a point, and I find that, in my article disclaiming dogmatism, I advanced one dogma as indisputable and printed it in italics: *It must be a wrong for those in authority to do anything which can only mean that they both expect and approve of sexual immorality.*"

So far from missing the point, I emphasised and endorsed it.

I regret that Dr. Williams should cast doubt on the efficacy of "prophylaxis," used with competence. I warned the reader that we could not escape the moral issue by mis-describing the physical facts. Dr. Williams well knows that during many years all the world over, "prophylaxis" has prevented gonorrhœal conjunctivitis in babies' eyes—blessing untold.

C. W. SALEEBY.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

MADAM,—I should like to contribute to your discussion on elementary school teaching, although, being now in Salonica, I fear I am rather belated.

My daily work is normally in the schools, so I am entitled to an opinion, and it seems to me that with the exception of medicine, where the remuneration is absurdly in advance of the expenditure involved, elementary school teaching *in London* pays better than almost any other profession for women. At nineteen, without a degree, one may start at a salary of £90 per annum, this rises to £130, and in a vast number of cases, automatically to £150, without any question of a headship at all. An increasing number of days yearly are allowed for illness, on full pay, after ten years a small pension is given if invalided out of the service, and at sixty-five one claims a pension—1-60 of one's average salary—for every year served.

For all this the expenses of training may be absolutely *nil;* one may be an elementary school child and get scholarships, which are numerous, to secondary school and training college, but even if not, the fees are merely nominal, and in some cases maintenance grants are given. Moreover, there are no great expenses of upkeep; simple dress, simple lodgings supplied; no tennis clubs, libraries, foreign languages to keep up, as in a High School, and very little evening work. Yet I know one brilliant friend of mine received only £120 a year at a High School after four years at Girton and some experience as a form mistress; while the long holidays, during which rooms must be paid for, are only an additional expense.

Moreover, the number of interesting demonstrations and lectures free to L.C.C. teachers is enormous. They are also a huge body and have arranged for substantial reductions at various shops and for foreign travel. Some years ago a trip to Cairo was undertaken, for instance, at about a quarter of its usual cost. The holidays are all too short, but long compared with business holidays, and extra half-days crop up, while in the "special" schools the hours of closing are very early.

For those that like men's society, unlike high schools, there is plenty of it to be had, though, owing to the fact that men have many far better paid callings open to them, the class of man teacher is usually considerably below that of the woman. Compared with nursing the salaries are princely; the L.C.C. nurses, who cannot begin work till about twenty-five, since the requisite training cannot be finished earlier, start at £80, and rise by smaller increments than the teachers to £115. Yet they work on Saturdays, have nowhere to take meals at mid-day, and have a much more arduous life physically. They, it is true, are given some inadequate uniform. The modern school buildings are magnificent, far better than the average high school or typewriter's office, and the worst that can be said of the life, for an educated girl, is that it is dull, because at present she does not meet there her social equals, except in the way of care committee people, school managers, etc., who are often delightful; but neither does she in business. If, however, the holidays were slightly lengthened, and a large influx of better class women took place, there would be little to complain of, especially now with the very bright prospects for considerable increase of salary

"ONLOOKER."

WOMEN AS DENTISTS.

MADAM,—We are all aware that during the war attention has been repeatedly called by medical men to the enormous need for a much more thorough and effective dental practice and education. Never before has the importance of proper care of the teeth and the mouth as a factor in national health and efficiency been more startlingly demonstrated.

"The British Dental Journal," in a recent issue states: "With regard to dental students, the position is so serious as to demonstrate the necessity for prompt action to ensure the prospective supply of qualified practitioners. Statistics from the sixteen Dental schools of the United Kingdom show that whereas the average number of dental students before the war was 900 in Great Britain, the number at present has been reduced to about 190, of whom 47 are women." This constitutes an appeal to intelligent and well-educated women. I know one such woman, twenty-nine years of age, having recently graduated in science at London University, an enthusiastic student, who is eager and anxious to begin training immediately for the dental profession, and whose high abilities and enthusiasm for the work would ensure her success, but who is debarred by lack of funds from embarking on the necessary minimum four years' course. I should be very grateful if any of your readers could give information of any fund from which assistance could be drawn.

MAUD I. FINDLAY.

[Women's Service, the London Society for W.S., 58, Victoria-street, has already taken this matter up; but, as the expenses are large, individual contributions will be very much appreciated.—ED., "C.C."]

Reports.

MASS PROTEST MEETING AGAINST REGULATION 40 D.

A very large audience at the Central Hall, Westminster, on April 29th, under the presidency of Mrs. Despard, passed unanimously the following resolution demanding the withdrawal of Regulation 40 D:—

> "That this meeting convened by the Women's Freedom League and the Independent Women's Social and Political Union views with horror the reintroduction of the principle of the old, useless and discredited Contagious Diseases Acts with all their shameful outrage and injustice to women, and demands the immediate withdrawal of Regulation 40 D of the Defence of the Realm Act issued by Order in Council on March 22nd without the knowledge of the representatives of the People and in spite of the opposition both inside and outside the House of Commons in face of which the Criminal Law Amendment Bill was dropped last session."

The speakers were Miss Esther Roper, Miss Lind-af-Hageby, Mr. Lees Smith, M.P., and Mr. George Lansbury. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Clifford, who referred to his work with Josephine Butler and said that the atmosphere to-day was more conducive to success than it was thirty years ago.

Among those present were the Dean of Lincoln, Mr. J. Allen Baker, M.P., Mr. Walter Roch, M.P., Mr. H. G. Chancellor, M.P., Miss Olive Schreiner, Lady Brassey, Sir Charles Tarring, Mrs. Lees Smith, the Hon. Mrs. Walter Roch, Miss d'Alberti, Mr. Maurice Gregory, Mr. Williams, Mr. C. E. Maurice, Miss Abadam.

Letters and telegrams of sympathy and support were received from the Rev. F. B. Myer, Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., Mr. P. W. Raffan, M.P., Mr. Ramsey Macdonald, M.P., Lady Emily Lutyens, Mrs. Saul Solomon, and others.

The Societies supporting this resolution were:—Catholic Women's Suffrage League, Committee of Social Investigation and Reform, Fabian Women's Group, Free Church League for Women's Suffrage, London Women's Council of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Manchester, Salford and District Women's Trades and Labour Council, National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, Petersfield Suffrage Society, Qui Vive Marchers Corps, Southend-on-Sea Women's Adult School and the Women's Labour League.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS MARGARET JONES.
MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. ALYS RUSSELL.
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Offices—Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W.1.
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Headquarters.

The Office will be closed on Saturday, May 18th, and Monday, May 20th.

There is every prospect of a strenuous summer's work for the Union. Organisers are being engaged to meet the steady demand for them from Societies, and in many places there are signs that the extended objects of the Union will bring fresh life and fresh members to its ranks. The importance of educating the women citizens on non-party lines before the next General Election is leading to the rapid formation of Women Citizens' Associations, and in this effort, Suffrage Societies, in common with political and educational organisations of women of every shade of opinion, are cordially co-operating.

Literature Department.

Those suffragists who have not yet procured a copy of "The Women Citizens' Diary for 1918" will be glad to know that the few remaining copies have now been reduced to half price. (9d. Postage, 1d.)

"Votes and Responsibilities," the new leaflet, is now ready. This will be found a most useful leaflet for use at meetings of all kinds. Price 1s. 9d. per hundred. Postage 2½d.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS ABOUT WOMEN VOTERS AND THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER.

M.A.H. would be glad to know whether the fact that she is moving into another house in the same borough in August, 1918, will prevent her having the Parliamentary vote at the next General Election?—*No.*

Celebration Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	1,512	17	6
Mrs. Charles Harding ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Auerbach	30	0	0
Mrs. Reid	2	2	0
Mrs. W. E. Dowson ...	2	2	0
Mrs. Basil Hall		10	0
Mrs. R. S. Conway ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Reeks		2	6
Mrs. Fisher	1	1	0
Miss Sybil E. Henty ...		10	0
Miss Sterling	1	0	0
Miss Margaret Tuke ...	5	0	0
	£1,547	6	0

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1917 ...	1,661	11	9
Received from April 30th to May 8th, 1918:—			
SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
Mrs. George Simpson	1	1	0
Miss Adelaide Baxter	1	1	0
Mrs. George Bromet		5	0
Miss Mary Despard		5	0
Mrs. Patrick Graham		5	0
Mrs. W. H. Kitchin		5	0
Mrs. W. H. Patterson	1	1	0
Miss Bertha Clarke		5	0
Miss Clara Collet	1	1	0
Mrs. MacLehose	1	1	0
Miss E. H. Vaughan Williams		2	6
Mrs. Samuel	1	1	0
Miss Emily Ford	1	0	0
Miss R. G. Falkiner	1	0	0
Miss Sybil E. Henty		2	6
Mrs. Sturdee	1	0	0
Miss Rosanna Powell		2	6
Miss Rice, M.A.		5	0
Miss Constance H. Fleming ...		10	0
AFFILIATION FEES.			
Lytham and St. Anne's W.S.S.		10	0
Colwyn Bay W.S.S.	1	6	9
Dunfermline W.S.S.		12	6
DONATIONS.			
Mrs. George Simpson	1	1	0
Lytham and St. Anne's W.S.S.	2	11	6
N. and E. Essex W.S.S. ...	2	6	0
Ottery St. Mary W.S.S.		11	6
	£1,682	4	6

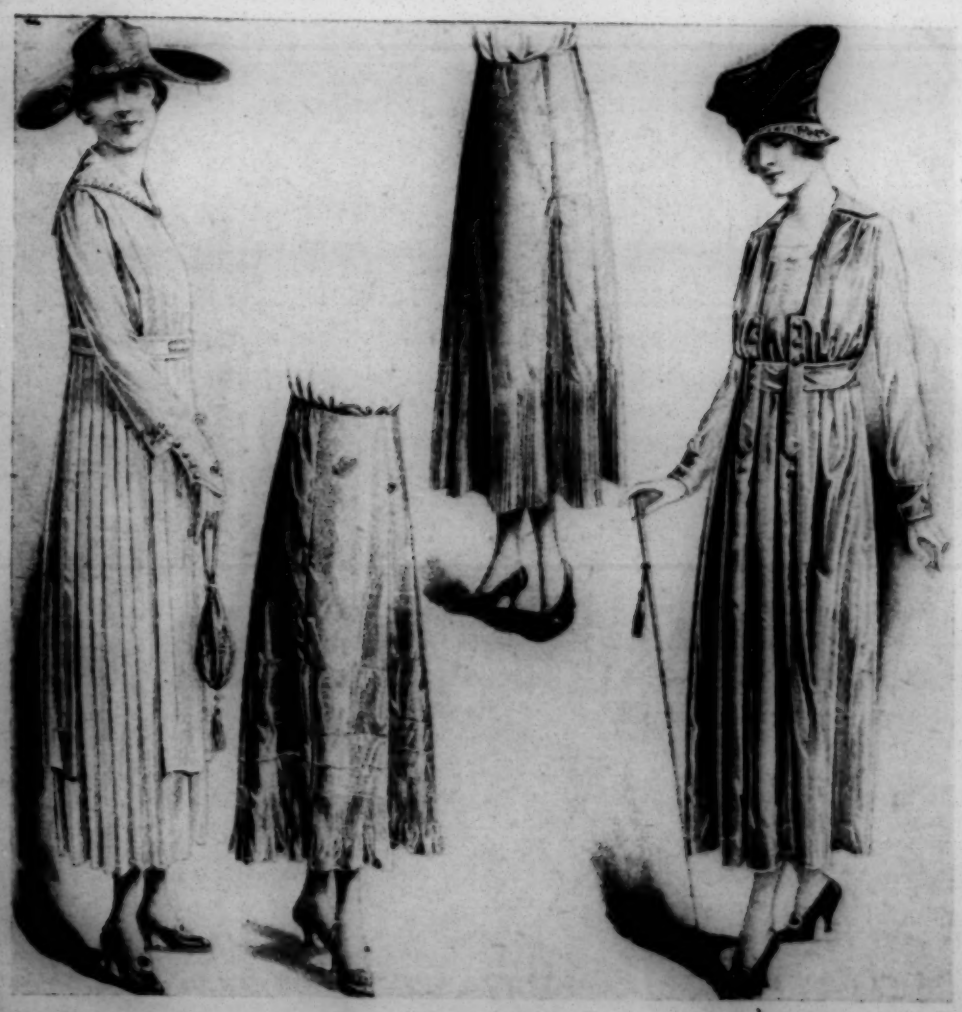
THIRD "COMMON CAUSE" HUT.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	569	19	10
Miss E. M. Batty		2	6
Miss Knight		5	0
Miss M. Payne	2	0	0
Keswick Society for Women's Suffrage, per Miss R. E. Highton, Hon. Treasurer, Proceeds of Collection to Celebrate the Passing of the Franchise Bill	5	11	2
Mrs. Henry Biggs	1	9	0
	£578	18	6

"THE COMMON CAUSE" £2,000 FUND.

We gratefully acknowledge the following kind donations:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	352	5	2
Miss E. A. Barrett		1	0
The Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves	1	1	0
Bury Unitarian Women's League		5	0
Southport Society for Women's Suffrage, per Miss E. Rigby	3	7	6
	£361	19	8



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The Lancet, Dec. 16th, 1916.

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N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

LONDON UNITS. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

The Elsie Inglis Unit, at the time of writing the mails just received, was preparing the hospital for patients who were expected at any moment. All the hospital tents were ready, and as this report is dated April 9th, are by this time probably full. It was decided that a laboratory is a necessary extension of the work and the equipment for this will, it is hoped, shortly be installed. Dr. Benson has arranged for the building of a number of mud and wattle houses, which will offer better protection against heat and flies than the tents, and will serve to house kitchen, mess, theatre, &c.

Dr. Chesney and Miss Chapple have arranged the camp admirably, with special regard to water supply and sanitation, and the picturesque background has been supplied by Nature. Stone paths have been laid down and gardens made. The mess tent and kitchen lie on the far side of a clear stream and are reached by stepping stones. Miss Fooks has ploughed up and prepared a plot of ground and sown vegetable seeds. A *bolnichar* (Serbian sanitar) is installed as gardener, and Dr. Benson hopes that the hospital may be able to produce its own vegetables as these are extremely scarce and incredibly dear.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed for much new work being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units should be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or to Miss Gosse, Joint Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to April 25th, 1918	310,471	4	1
Further donations received to April 30th, 1918:—			
*Per Mrs. Aldridge, Organiser, S.W.H.: Bury's Workmen's Hospital Fund (£6 6s.), Collection at Works, Sheffield per Fred Osborne, Esq., Director (£3 14s.) (£10), Messrs. Woodhouse & Ritson (£5)	15	0	0
*Cupar Fife W.S.S., per Miss Innes, Hon. Treas., Part proceeds of Jumble Sale, to continue "Cupar-Fife" Bed (Corsica)	25	0	0
*Mrs. St. John Bullen, per Mrs. Hicks, Hon. Treas., Bristol W.S.S.	5	0	0
*Per Active Service Fund, N.U.W.S.S., London: Mrs. Page Wernicke (£1), Mrs. Robert Davidson (10s.), Mrs. Tudor Jones (10s.), M. C. P. (10s.), Woburn Sands W.S.S. (10s.)	3	0	0
*Dunbar W.S.S., per Miss Aspinwall, Hon. Treas. (Sallanches)		2	6
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees, Messrs. Portland, Forge & Co.	1	17	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: *Workmen's Scheme:* *Employees, Messrs. Brown Bros., Rosebank Works, Edinburgh, per Miss Buchan (£19 8s. 6d.), *West Calder Shale Miners' Association, per Geo. Cowan, Esq. (£7 16s. 6d.), Employees, Messrs. Geo. Wolfe & Sons Ltd., West Lothian Works, Bathgate (£7), No. 4 Hoist Squad: Machinemen and Trimmers, per J. Munro, Esq., Leith (£2), *Employees, Messrs. McTaggart Scott & Co., Station Ironworks, Loanhead, per John D. Laurie, Esq. (£2), No. 1 Hoist Edinburgh Dock, per J. Paton, Esq., Leith (£1), No. 2 Coal Hoist, Edinburgh Dock, Foremen and Employees, per W. Willis, Esq., Leith (14s.),			
Bed for Royaumont, per Miss Cowe, St. Alto Haven, Berwickshire (£25)	64	19	0
"L. St. Andrews"	5	0	0
*Mrs. Houlson Crauford, of Crauford, per Alex. McCulloch, Esq., Deputy Treasurer, Kilmarnock, to continue "Craufordland Glen" Bed (Royaumont), per Miss Etta Shankland	25	0	0
*Orcadian W.S.S., per John A. Forsyth, Esq., Kirkwall, to continue "Orcadian" Bed (Royaumont)	33	10	0
*Secondary School, Woodhouse, Sheffield, per John Buckley, Esq., B.Sc., Headmaster ...	5	0	0
*Mrs. Horsburgh, Musselburgh, per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas., Edinburgh W.S.S.		10	0
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Hon. Sec., S.W.H., Greenock, 22nd instalment from "Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme" (8sallanches)... ...	100	0	0
Birkenhead Branch of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, per Miss Browne, Hon. Treas.	4	3	3
*Hugh Roberts, Esq.	10	10	0
Miss M. A. Morrison (Serbia)		5	0
*Collected by Mrs. Fleming, Hon. Treas., Kelso W.S.S., to continue "Margaret" and "Marjorie" Beds (Salonica and Villers-Cotterets)	200	0	0
*Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose (Monthly donation)		10	0
*Per Miss Jane E. Ramsay, proceeds of Miss Holme's lecture on April 8th	4	0	0
James L. Blackwood, Esq., per R. Blackwood, Esq.	1	0	0
*Colonel James Davidson, V.D., Kirriemuir	2	2	0
*Proceeds of Concert held at Kilmacolm Hydropathic, on April 26th, 1918, per Miss Gordon, Manageress, per Mrs. Wood, Hon. Treas., Kilmacolm W.S.S.	10	0	0
*Anonymous		10	0
The Hon. Mrs. Hulme Lever	5	5	0
Miss Janet Hunter		10	0
	£313,216	11	1

* Denotes further donations.

NOTE.—Please note error in total for week ending April 26th, correct total being £301,081 5s. 8d., not £649,709 9s. 8d., as given in printed list.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Beds.	*Donors.*
"Cupar-Fife" (Corsica, further 6 months)	Cupar-Fife W.S.S., per Miss Innes, Hon. Treas.
"Craufordland Glen" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Mrs. Houlson Crauford, of Crauford.
"Orcadian" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Orcadian W.S.S., per John A. Forsyth, Esq.
"Yorkshire Margarets" (Corsica, further 1 year)	Kelso W.S.S., per Mrs. Fleming.
"Kelso Margarets" (2 beds) (Salonica, further 1 year each)	Kelso W.S.S., per Mrs. Fleming.
"Marjorie" (Villers-Cotterets, further 1 year)	Kelso W.S.S., per Mrs. Fleming.
"Women's Educational Union" (America Unit, further 1 year) ...	Per Miss G. M. W. Anderson, Treas.
"Margaret Jessie Cable" (America Unit, further 3 months)	Ayr W.S.S., per Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.
"Lilian Little" (America Unit, further 3 months)	Ayr W.S.S., per Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.

Reports from Societies.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT FEDERATION.

The Manchester and District Federation has had the pleasure of a visit from Miss Margaret Jones, the Hon. Secretary of the N.U.W.S.S. Miss Jones was the chief speaker at a Special Federation Meeting at the Milton Hall, Deansgate, Manchester, on April 17th, held to discuss its future work and policy, in view of the new situation created by the passing of the Representation of the People Act. Mr. G. G. Armstrong presided. The meeting was also made the occasion of a pleasing little farewell ceremony and presentation to Mrs. M. G. Thoday, who for the past three years has done invaluable work as Hon. Secretary of the Federation and who is now resigning owing to her approaching departure for South Africa.

A resolution calling upon Suffrage Societies within the Federation not to disband but to continue their Suffrage work, was carried unanimously and it was also agreed to co-operate with other Women's Organisations in the formation of Women Citizens' Associations.

Resolutions dealing with the Regulation 40D of the D.O.R.A. and with the Rationing of Boys and Girls between the ages of thirteen and sixteen were carried unanimously.

Miss Jones also met the Executive Committee of the Manchester Society, addressed meetings at Bury, Orrell, Rochdale, Chinley and Carnforth, and had numerous opportunities of meeting and talking with the Officials both of the Manchester Society and Federation. Miss Jones' visit should prove a stimulus to renewed effort and be productive of good results.

BURY.—Under the auspices of the newly-formed Women Citizens' Association a public meeting was held in the Athenæum on April 16th. The Chairman was Dr. Greenhalgh, and a very interesting and much appreciated address was given by Miss Margaret Jones on "The Work and Possibilities of a W.C.A." The Association, she said, should aim above all at being educational. It should provide a platform where women of all parties and no party could meet and discuss. This would not prevent them joining one party or another. She thought the whole value to a political party—and, what was more important, the whole value to the nation and humanity—was that people should think before they made up their minds, rather than just be swept into a party.

Mrs. Errock, who has been a great help to us in the formation of our W.C.A., explained the qualifications which women required to be placed on the Register, and suggested the formation of study circles to deal with specific subjects. The Rev. Thinnis moved, in a very stirring speech, and the Rev J. C. Woodhouse seconded, a vote of thanks to the Speaker and Chairman.

ORRELL.—The first meeting of the Orrell and District Women Citizens' Association was held on Thursday, April 18th. About thirty were present.

Miss Jones of the N.U.W.S.S. gave an address. She tried to give her hearers an idea of what kind of work a W.C.A. can usefully contemplate and what ideals the members should ever keep before them. There was some discussion of a very interesting nature, which was kept up so long that Miss Jones had to hurry away without a vote of thanks. We are very grateful for her visit and hope to have a return some time.

This Association was begun as the result of an address by Councillor Margaret Ashton at the Workers' Educational Association. This address led to a meeting addressed by Mrs. Cooper, at which there were present sixty women who decided to take steps to form an Association of Women Citizens. Miss Jones addressed our first meeting and the second, to be held on May 7th, will be addressed by Councillor Eleanor Rathbone of Liverpool. We hope that with help such as this we shall be able to grow in both numbers and usefulness.

CHINLEY.—A meeting was held on April 20th to inaugurate and elect officers for a Women Citizens' Association, at which Miss Margaret Jones (Hon. Sec., N.U.W.S.S.) was the speaker. Chair: Mrs. Thoday.

Miss Jones said all parties had tried to induce people to see merely the point of view that appealed most to the interests of that party, whereas W.C.A.'s will endeavour to provide full, non-party and unprejudiced information. The Secretary of the Association has already been asked to assist in the forming of the new Register, and has done so.

The officers and many of the Committee elected were members of the Suffrage Society, which will still continue its work.

A good number of members were enrolled, and it is hoped to have shortly a very flourishing Association, and that Federation or District Information Bureaux will be organised in order to ensure unity of action in the several constituencies.

Mrs. Preston, on behalf of the Suffrage Society, presented a beautiful painting to Mrs. Thoday, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to her for her untiring and devoted assistance and leadership for over four years.

It is hoped to see Miss Jones at Chinley again.

ROCHDALE.—The inaugural meeting of the Women Citizens' Association was held in the Examination Hall Technical School on Tuesday, April 23rd. Lord Rochdale presided over a large meeting and expressed himself in favour of the formation of such societies. A resolution was moved by Miss I. Cleghorn, M.A., seconded by Miss Margaret Jones, Hon. Sec., N.U.W.S.S. and carried unanimously.

MARYLEBONE BRANCH OF THE LONDON SOCIETY.

The Committee decided at their meeting on April 17th to take the iniative in starting a branch of the National Women Citizens' Associations in this district, in accordance with the joint scheme drawn up on October 3rd, 1917, at the meeting of the National Council of Women.

The object of these Associations is to bring together on non-party, non-sectarian and democratic lines all women's societies and individual women in order:—

(*a*) To foster a sense of citizenship in women;

(*b*) To encourage the study of political, social, and economic questions;

(*c*) To secure the adequate representation of the interests and experience of women in the affairs of the community.

To achieve these objects every society and club in this district, which includes women, is invited to co-operate in the formation of the Association. Helpers are urgently needed for the work of visiting and canvassing.

Mrs. Davidson, of the London Society, is at present working in Marylebone as organiser. Those who are able to give any help in the district should communicate with her at 9, Queen Anne's Street, Harley Street W. 1, or at 58, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

SHEFFIELD.

The annual meeting of the Branch was held on Friday, April 19th, when the officers and committee were elected for the year. Mr. H. A. L. Fisher was re-elected President, Miss Jarvis, Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. Cawood, Hon. Treasurer. After the annual report and financial statement had been read and adopted, and Mrs. Richards, the energetic COMMON CAUSE Secretary had also reported on her year's work, a short address on Serbia was given by Mrs. Aldridge, of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. She was followed by Mrs. Fisher, who spoke on the future work of the Suffrage Societies. There was also a discussion on Women Citizens' Associations.

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S.)

MAY 10.

Brixton—Women's Institute, Durand Gardens, S.W.—Subject: "History and the Position of Women in Industrial Life"—Speaker: Dr. Tickner—Chair: Miss Deverell 8 p.m.

Maidenhead—Town Hall—Public Meeting—Chair: Lt. Col. A. H. Warren, J.P. 3 p.m.

MAY 13.

Southport—Congregational Schoolroom, Chapel Street—Speaker: Mrs. Cooper, of Nelson—Chair: Rev. J. S. Crisall, M.A. (Vicar of St. Andrews)

Solihull—Women's Suffrage Society—Lecture on Domestic Legislation—Mrs. Ring 5.30 p.m.

MAY 14.

Peckham—Clifton Sisterhood, Queen's Road—Speaker: Mrs. Corbett Fisher, M.A.—Subject: "Women's New Responsibilities" 3 p.m.

Hitchin, Stevenage and District—The Welcome Club, Payne's Park, Hitchin—Annual Meeting 3 p.m.

Leicester—Women Citizens' Association—Mrs. Ring 8 p.m.

MAY 15.

Tunbridge Wells—44, Grosvenor Road—Members' Meeting—Speaker: Miss Margaret Jones, Hon. Sec., N.U.W.S.S.—Tea 4.30 p.m. 5 p.m.

MAY 16.

Lambeth—Brew House, St. Mary's Church, Lambeth Road, S.E.—Speaker: Mrs. Watson—Subject: "Women and the Home" 3 p.m.

Bridgnorth—Women's Suffrage Society—Annual Meeting—Mrs. Ring 3.45 p.m.

LONDON UNITS, SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

MAY 15th.—Eltham L.C.C. Training College, Avery Hill—Speaker: Miss May Curwen 2.45 p.m.

MAY 24th.—Aske's Hatcham Girls' School, New Cross, S.E.—Speaker: Miss May Curwen 2.30 p.m.

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40	3 0	8 6	16 0

ANNOUNCEMENT.

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(Continued on page 48

Continued from page 47]

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INCOME-TAX Abatements.—Claims for return of excess tax made out by Miss C. A. Moffett, B.A., 9, Somerset-rd., Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

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